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### ***Milwaukee Experiences First Heat-Related Death of 2002***

The Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's office has notified the Milwaukee Health Department that a heat-related fatality occurred yesterday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, at approximately 5:00 PM. In addition to a number of other risk factors, the deceased was taking psychotropic medications.

The Heat Index has not exceeded 89 over the past several days and no National Weather Service alerts have been released. Emergency rooms report no increase in patients with complaints related to heat.

Although it is unusually early in the season, the Milwaukee Health Department recommends that persons, who have severe, chronic illness and also take mental health medications, should stay in a cool environment. Facilities serving these individuals should begin using air conditioning when available. MHD also asks community agencies to review their plans for response to heat events. Unless new information indicates a broader problem, no further action is recommended at this time.

*For more information, contact:*

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